

CNET INSTRUCTION 5090.6

Subj: REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5090.1B

1. Purpose. This instruction outlines the role and responsibilities of the Regional Environmental Coordinator (REC). This instruction shall not usurp the responsibility of the activity to operate under its chain of command.

2. Scope. The Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) serves as the Area Environmental Coordinator for all naval activities in the EPA Regions V and VI. CNET is the REC for EPA Region VI and has designated NTC Great Lakes as the REC for EPA Region V.

3. Responsibilities

a. As the REC, CNET shall:

(1) Coordinate public affairs and community relations in the region with respect to environmental matters and serve as the point of contact for public media inquiries for matters of regional scope.

(2) Ensure consistent positions, agreements, permit conditions, and responses to regulatory agencies within the region, coordinating closely with affected shore activities, major claimants, and Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (COMNAVFACENGCOM) (Engineering Field Division/Engineering Field Activity (EFD/EFA)). Coordinate with other military service RECs on issues that affect regional Department of Defense (DoD) activities as a whole. Where activities are taking inconsistent positions of similar environmental issues, the REC shall assist in reconciling the positions and developing a single Navy position within the region. If differences cannot be resolved among affected shore activities, major claimants, or other military service RECs, the REC shall elevate the issue to Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) (N45) via the chain of command for resolution.

(3) Serve as the primary interface with regional Federal and State regulatory agencies. Provide assistance to facilities in dealing with regulatory agencies as requested.

(4) Coordinate exchange of environmental information in the region, including the distribution of State, local, and regional laws, rules, and regulations.

(5) Monitor environmental compliance within the region.

(6) Develop regional plans of action for specific environmental initiatives in coordination with commanding officers in the region and major claimants. Coordinate regional training initiatives among Navy activities and with other Federal, State, and local agencies to promote efficient use of training resources.

(7) Ensure that Navy On-Scene Coordinator spill contingency plans are reviewed, responsibilities are clearly outlined, and procedures are consistent with policies of the REC.

(8) Act as the liaison between visiting foreign warships, environmental regulatory personnel, and port services on environmental requirements during ship visits.

(9) Ensure that agreed-upon Navy positions and concerns are articulated to State lawmakers and Federal, State, and local regulatory officials within their region by appropriate Navy officials.

(10) Review and evaluate proposed State environmental legislation and regulations for potential impact on Navy operations, and keep appropriate major claimants and shore activities informed on the status of State legislative and regulatory proposals.

b. Commanding officers are responsible for compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements and shall continuously strive for improvements in all areas of pollution prevention and environmental protection. Commanding officers within the coordination area shall:

(1) Coordinate important environmental matters with major claimants, the EFD, and the REC. Such matters include but are not limited to:

(a) Negotiation of permit conditions

(b) Payment of fees and fines

(c) Identification and correction of Notice of Violations, Notice of Noncompliance, or warning notices

(d) Compliance agreements or administrative orders

(e) Positions and concerns relative to new or proposed requirements.

(2) Certify and sign all environmental permits.

(3) Immediately advise the major claimant and REC of any proposal or requirement with potential to adversely affect the activity mission with information copies to the chain of command.

(4) Advise the major claimant, EFD, and REC of dealings with regulators that could establish or impact Navy policy. Provide copies of all inspection report deficiencies (including self-Environmental Compliance Evaluations (ECEs)) and corrective actions taken to the REC.

(5) Advise the REC of any environmental issues expected to receive media interest.

(6) Forward suggestions for regional environmental initiatives to the REC.

(7) Cooperate fully with Federal, State, and local regulatory officials and attempt to reach agreement on environmental compliance matters while fulfilling the environmental compliance coordination requirements described above.

(8) Develop host/tenant agreements with respect to environmental compliance (including permit conditions), or establish environmental compliance boards of host and tenant commands. These agreements should address, but not be limited to, host and tenant responsibilities, environmental compliance evaluations, National Environmental Policy Act documentation, contact with regulatory agencies, payment of fines/fees, and permit signatures/requirements. Ensure that the REC, EFDs, and major claimants are cognizant of these agreements.

Distribution:

Navy Activities in TX, NM, OK, AR, LA

Stocked:

CHIEF OF NAVAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

CODE 0041

CNET

250 DALLAS ST

PENSACOLA FL 32508-5220